

## Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-07 EB-08

TRSE-00 OMB-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 L-03 DLOS-09 INT-05

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 MMO-04 /084 W

-----026288 190404Z /21

R 171051Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1599

INFO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS CARACAS 2587

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, VE,SP

SUBJ: SPANISH-VENEZUELAN FISHERIES CONNECTION

REF: STATE 65284

1. ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION, SPAIN IS PARTICIPATING EITHER AS A JOINT VENTURE PARTNER OR IN SOME OTHER WAY IN FOUR MAJOR PROJECTS IN VENEZUELA. NONE OF THESE ARE DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE FISHERIES INDUSTRY. THE FOUR INCLUDE SPANISH PARTICIPATION IN A \$2 BILLION RAILROAD PROJECT (77 CARACAS 4511 AND 77 CARACAS 9175), PARTICIPATION IN A MAJOR SHIPYARD TO BE LOCATED IN THE PARAGUANA PENINSULA (77 CARACAS 8943), A PROJECT INCLUDING THE MANUFACTURE OF DIESEL ENGINES FOR BUSES AND TRUCKS AS WELL AS THE ASSEMBLY OF HEAVY TRUCKS IN WHICH THE SPANISH FIRM ENASA WILL HAVE SUBSTANTIAL EQUITY (77 CARACAS 9175), AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF FIVE COLD STORAGE WAREHOUSE IN VARIOUS VENEZUELAN CITIES AT A COST OF \$26MILLION (77 CARACAS 9175).

2. WE BELIEVE THAT FOR POLITICAL, IDEOLOGICAL, AND CULTURAL REASONS THE GOV IS EAGER TO SUPPORT THE PRESENT SPANISH GOVERNMENT. TANGIBLE UNCLASSIFIED

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EVIDENCE OF THIS POLICY IS THE GOV PROPENSITY TO FAVOR SPANISH SUPPLIERS AND CONTRACTORS. A SPECIFIC EXAMPLE OF THIS IS THE GOV DECISION TO INVITE PEGASO TO ESTABLISH ITSELF IN VENEZUELA AS A PRODUCER OF DIESEL ENGINES AND HEAVY TRUCKS AFTER MACK WAS GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND IT HAD BEEN SELECTED.

3. WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY PLANS ON THE PART OF THE GOV TO USE

SPANISH OWNED OR REGISTERED VESSELS TO OPERATE OFF THE US COAST UNDER VENEZUELAN FLAG. VENEZUELAN DID ACQUIRE SOME FISHING VESSELS FROM SPAIN SOME TIME AGO BUT THESE ARE VENEZUELAN OWNED TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE. WE HAVE NOT RAISED SPECIFIC QUESTION OF JOINT VENTURE CONCEPT WITH GOV SINCE RECEIPT OF REFTEL, BUT WILL DO SO IF DEPARTMENT WISHES.

4. WITHIN LAST SEVERAL DAYS EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED INQUIRY ABOUT REGULATIONS GOVERNING IMPORTS OF YELLOWFIN TUNA INTO US FROM VENEZUELA. INQUIRY WAS RECEIVED FROM SAME FOREIGN TRADE INSTITUTE OFFICE WHICH ASKED FOR COPY OF DRAFT GIFA TWO WEEKS AGO (CARACAS 2064).

5. DEPARTMENT SHOULD NOTE THAT SPANISH VESSELS ARE LANDING CATCHES IN VENEZUELA WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE GOV. THIS IS NOT A SPECIAL SITUATION; AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE US VESSELS ARE AUTHORIZED TO DO THE SAME (77 CARACAS 4751).  
VAKY

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
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